

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ITALIAN AND ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION



Letter from the Chair

To our New Jersey Italian and Italian American Community - Saluti a tutti!



The Commission has quite an array of accomplishments to report, culminating with a welcomed "arrivederci" to this winter season and a warm "benvenuto" to spring. It can't come fast enough!

Our Education Committee Director, Gilda Rorro Baldassari, has been leading the development of our Curriculum with the DOE and all of its subcommittees while coordinating the website revisions with our Executive Director, Fred Proulx. This sounds easier than the actual pursuit of collaborating with the right partners, composing the syllabus with our Board of Academic Advisors, developing a public relations concept, and considering all the cause-and-effect scenarios that are now in sync

- after "only" a decade of effort! Thanks to our entire Committee and the BAA.

Our annual Congress was as successful as it was fruitful. The Commission procured eight Chairs / Presidents from all of our National Organizations - no easy feat - to participate with lectures, expositions, and a question-answer session, which was a tremendous sharing of the Italian-Italian American experience and insight. Their pledge to continue enhancing our evolution and assisting each other was compelling and gratifying. Thanks to our Team for making this possible.

One contribution that has already proven to be innovative and beneficial is the UNICO website development for all of our national organizations to have a single point of linking and communicating information. Thank you, Rick D' Arminio.

We have been pursuing a Twin City link between Italy and New Jersey. I am excited to announce that Toms River has completed a Sister City partnership with the 2019 Cultural Center of all of Europe - Matera, Italy. The collaboration with the Ocean County College's Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts makes it even more spectacular, having the first community college in New Jersey as our Center! The Mayor and Council were wonderfully forward thinking in promoting this venture of cooperation, commerce, and culture with a city across the globe. Our Consul General Andrea Canepari, along with Consul Correspondents Gilda Rorro Baldassari, Mario Marano and myself, with Executive Director Fred Proulx, shared in the arrangements and the exchange of proclamations and goodwill.

Our Italian American "ONE VOICE" Coalition, Dr. Manny Alfano and Andre' DiMino offered a workshop on instructions for learning the secrets in handling press and media opportunities to get maximum PR for your organization. Our Commissioners who attended said it was informative and insightful.

We are on schedule with our participation in "The Many Faces of Genocide" along with six other New Jersey Commissions at the Mercer County College on April 14th. The Commission is proud to announce that Ida Marinzoli (Ph.D. candidate from Rutgers University) and Eligio Clapcich (President of Giuliani Nel Mondo of New Jersey) will present information on the Foibe tragedy.

We at the Commission are grateful for the volunteer assistance of all of our Commissioners, but I would like to mention a special thank you for the generosity and commitment of Commissioners Larry Paragano and Sal Divino, who have gone above and beyond with their continued time and monetary donations to support the ongoing efforts of the Italian-Italian American Heritage Commission.

Thank you

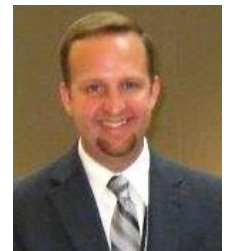
Robert J. DiBiase, Chairman

New Jersey Italian and Italian American Heritage Commission (NJIIAHC) 1 - 848-445-4163

Winter 2015

In this issue:

Letter from the Chair	1
Columbus Day Commemoration	2
"Growing Up Italian"	3
2014 Congress	4-6
Up & Coming Events	6
Curriculum Update	7



NJIIAHC

Executive Director,
Frederick D. Proulx

NJIIAHC PRESENTATIONS

Is your organization interested in having a Commissioner come to speak about the importance of the Italian and Italian American heritage and the NJIIAHC? To schedule a presentation, please contact our Executive Director, Frederick Proulx, at: in-fo@iahi.rutgers.edu or 848-445-4163. Help us help you serve the Italian American Community!